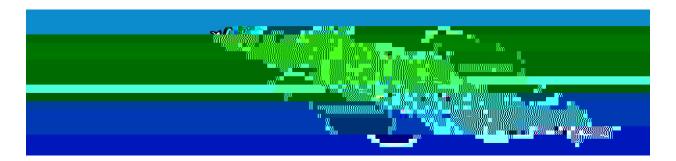


Mental Health & School Safety FAQs

What should you do if you or someone you know may need mental health services?

Remind them that you care about them, that help is available and they are not alone. Please refer students to your school counselor and adults to the resources listed below.

<u>The Christi Center</u> – free information and support groups for youth and adults regarding grief and loss. Phone: 512-467-2600 Integral Care –



What are the policies around locking interior doors during the school day? Austin ISD has an administrative directive that requires all classroom doors with student instruction to be locked during the school day. Schools are audited throughout the year to reinforce compliance.

What steps do schools take to keep students safe during extracurricular activities outside school hours?

All staff are trained on Emergency Operations Plans for each school or facility. The same duties, responsibilities, and procedures are to be followed in the event of natural or man-made crises. Any time a criminal violation is suspected, the Austin ISD Campus Police should be called at 512-414-1703 or if a life-threatening situation occurs, school staff should immediately call 911, and then notify campus administration.

What happens when a student makes a threat to the school?

The district takes all threats seriously. Threats of any nature are investigated to the full extent allowed by law and district policy. Threats of any kind against a school, students or staff are not tolerated. All school threats are investigated by school officials and law enforcement.

Threats that result in implementing a Standard Response Protocol (Hold, Secure, or Lockdown) or investigations by an official or agency that responds to emergencies, will result in the application of disciplinary measures aligned with district policy and applicable laws. Any disciplinary action taken is in accordance with <u>TEC Chapter 37</u> and the <u>Student Success Guide</u>.

How do Austin ISD Police officers determine if a threat is credible or not? Through the investigation process, officers determine if the individual who made the threat had true intent to cause harm or has access to weapons to carry out the threat. In many instances when a weapon shows up on social media, we locate the item and discover that it is a replica or airsoft gun. Additionally, we may learn that a flagged comment or passage was part of a classroom assignment or project. Our